

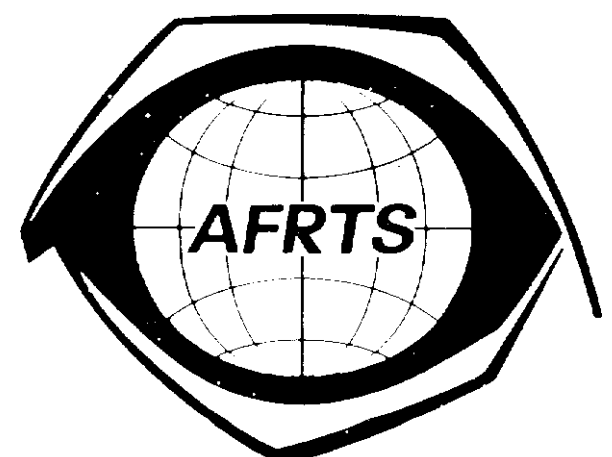


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Management and Operation of Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS)

February 1988

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FOREWORD

This DoD Regulation is issued under the authority of DoD Directive 5120.20, "American Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS)," December 23, 1980. It establishes procedures for the administration and operation of all Armed Forces Radio and Television outlets.

This Regulation supersedes Enclosure 3 of DoD Directive 5120.20 and any prior issuances of the AFRTS Broadcast Center publications heretofore commonly referred to as DP-1, DP-2, and DP-3. These publications have been renamed, respectively, as "AFRTS Program Materials," "AFRTS Mini-TV Handbook," and "AFRTS Telecommunications Circuit Management." These publications are published separately by AFRTS-BC whenever required to update, and shall be utilized as Appendixes F, G, and H, respectively, of this Regulation. With the publication of this Regulation, any still existing copies of the (draft) manual DoD 5120.20-M (Parts One and Two) should be discarded.

This Regulation applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Military Departments, the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (OJCS), the Unified and Specified Commands, the Defense Agencies, and activities administratively supported by OSD (hereafter referred to collectively as "DoD Components").

This Regulation is effective immediately and is mandatory for use by all DoD Components. The Broadcasting Services of the Military Departments and Heads of DoD Components may issue supplementary instructions when necessary to provide for internal administration of this Regulation within their respective Departments and/or Components.

Send recommended changes to this Regulation through channels to:

Director
American Forces Information Service
601 N. Fairfax St.
Alexandria, VA 22314-2007

DoD Components may obtain copies of this Regulation through their own publication channels. Other Federal Agencies and the public may obtain copies from the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161.

Fred S. Hoffman

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
of Defense (Public Affairs)

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- (a) DoD Directive 5120.20, "American Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS)," December 23, 1980
- (b) DoD Directive 5035.1, "Fund-Raising Within the Department of Defense," April 7, 1978
- (c) DoD Directive 4100.15, "Commercial Activities Program," August 12, 1985
- (d) DoD Instruction 4100.33, "Commercial Activities Program Procedures," September 9, 1985
- (e) DoD 4140.17-M, "Military Standard Requisitioning and Issue Procedures," January 1984
- (f) DoD 5122.10-STD-1, [Joint Work-Force Standards] "American Forces Radio and Television Broadcast Operations," May 1982
- (g) DoD 5122.10-STD-2, [Joint Work-Force Standards] "Armed Forces Radio and Television Broadcast Engineering and Maintenance," June 1985
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- (k) DoD Directive 5400.11, "Department of Defense Privacy Program," June 9, 1982
- (l) DoD Directive 5535.7, "License Agreements with Foreign Performing Rights Societies," November 1, 1985
- (m) DoD Directive 5515.8, "Single-Service Assignment of Responsibility for Processing of Claims," June 3, 1987
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INTRODUCTION

ARMED FORCES RADIO AND TELEVISION SERVICE (AFRTS)

AFRTS is an activity of the American Forces Information Service (AFIS) under the direction of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (ASD(PA)).

The AFRTS mission is to provide radio and television information and entertainment programming to DoD personnel and their family members stationed overseas or at sea where English language broadcast service is unavailable or inadequate. The programs are representative of those seen and heard in the United States, and are provided without censorship, propagandizing, or manipulation of content. They help sustain morale, and thereby enhance readiness, while supporting DoD internal information themes by including appropriate spot announcements.

Programs are provided to the AFRTS audience through land stations and deployed Navy, Military Sealift Command, and Coast Guard ships. Some land-based outlets are organized as regional networks to serve specific geographic areas; others consist of small, closed-circuit Mini-TV installations providing service to remote and isolated locations where normal AFRTS service is unavailable.

All programs are negotiated for, procured, and distributed by the AFRTS Broadcast Center (AFRTS-BC) in Los Angeles, CA. There are four distinct categories of program service as follows:

RADIO BROADCAST

AFRTS-BC distributes international, national, and military radio news as well as special events coverage, news analysis and commentary, public affairs material, and play-by-play sports. AFRTS-BC uses satellite, cable, and short-wave facilities to provide this service 24-hours per day, seven days a week. News programs are provided directly from the major U.S. commercial and public radio networks, including ABC, CBS, NBC, MBS, National Public Radio, Associated Press Radio Network, and United Press International Radio Network. In addition to these audio services, AFRTS-BC provides teletype news copy from the radio wires of AP and UPI. AFRTS-BC exercises no control over the content of this material, but deletes commercials and replaces them with DoD internal information and public service spot announcements and other "spot" announcements of interest to DoD personnel and their family members.

RADIO ENTERTAINMENT

AFRTS-BC distributes some radio entertainment programs produced "in house," while others are acquired from commercial and public service radio syndicators. These entertainment programs are placed into weekly program units and mailed to each authorized AFRTS outlet. These packages also contain the most popular new recordings in various music categories for use by outlets in producing local radio programs.

TELEVISION SATELLITE

The television equivalent of the radio Broadcast Service is the AFRTS Satellite Network (SATNET) that each day provides 24 hours of news, sports, special events, news feeds and timely entertainment programming to SATNET-equipped AFRTS outlets. AFRTS-BC removes all commercial announcements from these programs and, during half of each hour, replaces them with appropriate DoD internal information or public service announcements. During the other half of each hour, the commercials are replaced by a variety of visuals and music that may be aired as presented or replaced in the field by locally-produced command information spot announcements. SATNET draws from the programming offered by ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, PBS, ESPN, USA Network, and other sources available to AFRTS-BC through either fiber-optic circuits or satellite reception.

TELEVISION ENTERTAINMENT

Most television entertainment programs are non-timely and therefore are delivered to AFRTS outlets via weekly program units on videocassette. Affiliates without SATNET capability also receive news, sports, and timely entertainment programs on videocassette via priority mail shipments either from AFRTS-BC or from specially-designated SATNET duplicating facilities overseas. Also included in the weekly program units are non-timely information and sports programs, feature films, and filler materials. Weekly AFRTS television units over a year's time will include over 90 percent of the programs rated in the "Top 65" Nielsen survey list. They are distributed through a complex system of worldwide program circuits, eventually returning to AFRTS-BC for erasure.

Program owners and syndicators make their products available to the AFRTS audience at a mere fraction of the cost that would be paid by commercial radio or television stations. Many programs are provided free of charge. Through the generous cooperation of performing guilds, unions, and federations dating back to World War II, AFRTS-BC is not charged any performance rights or residual fees for the programs it distributes. Acquisition costs, if any, cover administrative handling and broadcast rights.